



Department of Justice

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LOCAL MAN ARRAIGNED ON FEDERAL INCOME TAX CHARGES

DAYTON - A federal grand jury here indicted Richard Philpott, age 77, of Waynesville, Ohio on two counts of committing income tax evasion relative to his 2000 and 2001 federal income tax returns.

Gregory G. Lockhart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, and Jose A. Gonzalez, Special Agent in Charge, Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Criminal Investigation announced the indictment of Richard Philpott. An arraignment was conducted today by United States District Judge Thomas M. Rose. Philpott plead not guilty to all counts and was released on bond. A trial date has not yet been set.

According to the indictment, Philpott filed 2000 and 2001 federal income tax returns with the IRS which were false and fraudulent. The indictment alleges that Philpott claimed he had no taxable income in either of these income tax years, that Philpott knew and believed that his taxable income for both of these income tax years was substantially in excess of that stated on the 2000 and 2001 income tax returns filed with the IRS, and that Philpott had substantial additional income tax that was due and owing to the IRS on this taxable income. Philpott could be sentenced to five years in prison and fined up to \$100 thousand if found guilty of the charges.

"Tax evasion is not a victimless crime," Lockhart said. "Honest, hardworking Americans pay the price when others choose to evade their tax obligations." Lockhart also commended the investigation by special agents of IRS-Criminal Investigation and Assistant U.S. Attorney Brent Tabacchi, who is prosecuting the case.

An indictment is merely an accusation. All defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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